

INFORMATION REPORT
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CD NO.

COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR 13 SEP 51

SUBJECT Soviet Views on Building
Chinese Communist Air Force

NO. OF PAGES 2

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Soviet personnel [] during the course of their conversations with
Chinese, indicate that they hold the following views concerning the development
of the Chinese Communist Air Force (CCAF):

1. A systematic survey of all existing airfields in China must be completed
between 1950 and 1951. These should be reconitioned and expanded, and
airfields in strategic areas must be equipped with modern installations.
2. With the exception of certain strategic airfields, reconitioning and
expansion of airfields in China must be coordinated with Soviet war
strategy, so that Chinese airfields can become important bases for the
Soviet Air Force (SAF) in the event of a world war.
3. Training of air force personnel must be intensified; 100,000 air force
personnel must be trained between 1950 and 1953.
4. Air crew personnel should be trained at Chienussu, Ili and Lanchou,
while ground personnel should be trained separately in the various
military areas.
5. The number of planes to be provided by the USSR will depend on the
progress of training in the CCAF.
6. In the event of a sudden change in the world situation before 1953,
planes piloted by SAF personnel may be sent to China to assist the
CCAF in defending China.
7. The Chinese Communist must select their best aeronautical technicians
to study progressive aircraft manufacturing techniques in the USSR
so that they will be prepared to establish modern aircraft
manufacturing plants in China as soon as the initial steps of
building the CCAF are completed.

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Class. Changed To: TS S C
Auth: HR 70-2 AUG 22
Date: 2006/01/30 : CIA-RDP82-00457R008500500005-2

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Comment. [redacted] the CCAF is still in its infancy; its total strength, including planes provided by the USSR, is about 1,000 planes. Most of these are now in Manchuria, but there is now one squadron of about 70 fighter planes in the East China Military Area, divided among the Mingkukung Airfield, Nanking; the Kiangwan Airfield, Shanghai; and the Chienchiac Airfield, Hangchow.

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